

tant original information on the habits, abundance, and relationship of the species treated. While gross comparisons are hardly permissible it is nevertheless interesting to note that of the 146 species and subspecies of land birds 85 are identical with those listed in Mr. Tyler's *Birds of Fresno* noticed above.—W. S.

Gifford's 'Birds of the Galapagos Islands.'¹—At the time of the earthquake and conflagration at San Francisco the Academy of Sciences had an expedition in the Galapagos which during an absence of 17 months secured the finest series of collections yet obtained on these interesting islands, and these have formed the nucleus of the new museum which the Academy has had to build up. Reports on several of the collections have already been published and in the contribution before us Mr. Edward W. Gifford, assistant curator of ornithology at the Academy, and ornithologist of the expedition, presents the first installment of an account of the ornithological material that was obtained, of which the skins alone number 8,691.

Forty-five species are treated in the present installment all of which, except the Dove, are water birds. The fullness of the accounts of the resident species leaves little to be desired and the completed report promises to be the most important contribution to the ornithology of the Galapagos that has yet appeared. Seven half-tones illustrate some of the more interesting species and their nests, including photographs of the flightless Cormorant (*Nannopterum harrisi*).

The nomenclature and sequence follow Sharpe's 'Hand List,' but even with this fact clearly stated it is unfortunate that the authorities for the names were not added, as is customary in all works of such importance as the present. We trust that Mr. Gifford may be able to push his report to an early completion and maintain the high standard that he has established.—W. S.

Brooks' List of the Birds of West Virginia.²—Mr. Viquesney's report as forest, game and fish warden of West Virginia is another of the admirable, educational reports that are being issued today by game wardens in various states.

In addition to general information on the protection of insectivorous and game birds, there is included a carefully prepared list of all the birds of the state by Rev. Earl A. Brooks. This is divided into two parts, one

¹ Expedition of the California Academy of Sciences to the Galapagos Islands 1905-1906. VIII. The Birds of the Galapagos Islands, with Observations on the Birds of Cocos and Clipperton Islands (Columbiformes to Pelecaniformes). By Edward Winslow Gifford. Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci. Fourth Series, Vol. II, Pt. I. pp. 1-132, pl. 1-7. August 11, 1913.

² Second Biennial Report of the Forest, Game and Fish Warden [of West Virginia] 1911-1912. J. A. Viquesney. Belington [W. Va.] [1913]. Svo. pp. 1-106 with 19 half-tone plates. List of birds, pp. 87-106.

treating of the game species, fifty-two in number, and the other the non-game birds,— one hundred and ninety-four. The latter list contains brief annotations and both vernacular and current technical names are used for all species; the former, prepared originally as an address before the State Fish and Game Protective Association, lacks technical names and is not so uniform in character, the shore birds being listed without annotations while the gallinaceous species are treated at considerable length.

The list forms a reliable summary of the wild bird life of West Virginia, but we trust Mr. Brooks will continue his researches and furnish us with a more comprehensive report, giving the distribution of the species in detail and the actual records of the rarer forms, with a discussion of their economic value. Such a report would be well worthy of publication by the state government and would be a welcome addition to ornithological literature.— W. S.

Bailey's 'Life Zones and Crop Zones of New Mexico.'¹— This report is based upon the field work of the Biological Survey, for a number of years past, conducted mainly by Mr. Bailey himself. The excellent map, which is on a reasonably large scale, presents the life zones of the state in considerable detail while the text discusses the physical characteristics of each and presents lists, not only of the mammals, breeding birds, reptiles and plants, but of the various varieties of vegetables and fruits which thrive there. There is also a comparison of the several mountain ranges of New Mexico and a bibliography. The report will prove of great value to all students of geographical distribution, and ornithologists will look forward with much interest to the report on the birds and mammals which, it is announced in the introduction, will be published later. We are pleased to notice in this and other recent publications of the Biological Survey a return to the possessive form in the case of birds named after persons, thus conforming to the 'A. O. U. Check-List' as well as to popular usage.— W. S.

Todd on New Neotropical Birds.²— Thirty-three new species and subspecies are briefly described by Mr. Todd in the present paper. Most of these are from the Santa Marta region, Colombia; the provence del Sara, Bolivia; and the Rio Caura, Venezuela, and they give us some idea of the wealth of neotropical material that is being acquired by the Carnegie Museum. Some of these descriptions are, we regret to say, open to the same criticism that has already been made in these pages in other connections,

¹ North American Fauna. No. 35. Life Zones and Crop Zones of New Mexico. By Vernon Bailey. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Biological Survey. Henry W. Henshaw, Chief. Svo. pp. 1-100, 16 half-tone plates, 6 text cuts, and a colored map. Actual date of publication, September 5, 1913.

² Preliminary Diagnoses of Apparently New Birds from Tropical America. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XXVI, pp. 169-174, August 8, 1913.